

PLANS BIG RESORT ON SALT LAKE SHORE

E. H. Harriman to Rebuild Noted Saltair.

OTHER FACTS ABOUT THE "DEAD SEA OF AMERICA."

Salt Lake City, July 6.—(Special correspondence to the Chicago Evening Post.)—Two facts have reawakened general interest in the Great Salt Lake, the Dead Sea of America, which has furnished more salt than any mine in the world, and whose waters in which there is practically no living thing, are said to have wooed back to health and strength more people than all the doctors.

One of these facts is the return of high water, which has brought the level of the lake back to that of 1867, its highest known point, and which has set to rest whatever fear remained that in the ages to come evaporation would remove the flood and leave the sun baked plain.

The other fact which has caused renewed interest is that Edward H. Harriman is negotiating with the elders of the Mormon church for a long-term lease on Saltair, the famous Salt Lake resort, with a view to spending at least \$2,000,000 in making it the finest bathing and water side resort in the world.

Should the Harriman plans be carried out, and there seems little doubt that they will be, the Mormon church will have its income considerably increased and the Salt Lake will have a health and pleasure resort the like of which has never before been conceived.

The plans which Mr. Harriman is said to have in view comprehend the enlargement and rebuilding of Saltair, the construction of a modern trolley line, the construction in the face of the bald hills of a wonderful automobile road leading from the city to the lake, and the redemption of at least 400 acres of the shore of Antelope Island for summer homes which shall be reached by an electric line running eight miles across an arm of the lake.

This road, if it is built, will be every bit as wonderful as the Lucin cut-off, which Harriman built at a cost of over \$4,000,000 to avoid the grades of the Union Pacific line which ran around the lake to the north.

The possibilities of Saltair in the lines of pleasure and health appealed to Mr. Harriman the first time he saw the lake and he has had it in mind for many years to make it what it should be.

The invigorating and curative properties of the water are undeniable, and yet no effort has been made to use them for the good of mankind, with the exception, of course, of the benefit derived from cursory bathing in the lake. It is Mr. Harriman's idea to construct a modern pleasure resort of high class, with facilities for remaining at the lake, and also to establish, separately and distinctly from this, a huge sanitarium where the salt waters may be used for curative purposes, especially in nervous and neurotic cases.

The island on which may be established one of the finest suburbs of the future Salt Lake city is the one General Fremont visited in 1843, driving to it from the main land, so low was the water of the lake that year.

Regarding it there are many interesting stories. Years ago

there lived in Salt Lake a man who was never known to work, and yet who seemed always to have a generous supply of money. People came to be very curious regarding him, and it was finally discovered that he made his living by robbing the graves of the dead. It was decided that he must be dealt with severely.

Accordingly a committee of citizens went to his home in the dead of the night, took him out of bed, permitted him to get a few belongings together and took him to the shores of Salt Lake. Once there they rowed him in a boat over to Antelope Island, where he was left, marooned. There is not a living thing on the island and no fresh water. The chances are that it was impossible for him to reach the shore without a boat. However this may be, the ghoul was never heard from nor seen again, so far as is known, by anyone.

Another interesting island is called Gull, or Bird Island, which is about twenty miles from the north shore. It contains about three acres of land, and is the home of millions upon millions of seagulls. Two men own Seagull Island, one of whom is P. W. Mateson. It is the purpose of these men to market the fertilizing material, tons of which have been deposited by the birds.

There are eight islands in Salt Lake, the largest of which is Antelope. It is fourteen miles long and four miles wide. The level of the lake varies greatly with the cycles of time. There are what some people term the wet and dry cycles. During the dry periods the lake recedes, owing to the lack of rain and snow and the operation of rapid evaporation.

It is during these cycles that the rumor spreads that the lake is rapidly drying up, but the wet cycle soon returns, and the waters of the lake rise again. The wet cycle is now at its peak, and the waters of the lake are as high as they were in 1867, which is the high-water mark in its history.

The waters of the lake probably were at their lowest point in 1843. The lake gradually rose from that period until 1867. At that time the lake was 120 miles long and forty miles wide, covering an area of about twenty-five square miles.

In 1902 and 1903 the waters receded almost to the mark of 1843. Just before they began to rise again the Mormon church was seriously considering the abandonment of the present Saltair resort and building a new one fully one mile farther out. Had this been done the new resort would have been under way by this time. Only a short time ago bathers were compelled to walk out about a mile from the bath house in order to get waist-deep water. Now there are five or six feet of water under the Saltair pavilion.

The geological predecessor of Salt Lake was Lake Bonneville, which was about 250 miles long and covered Utah from Arizona to Idaho. The valleys of Utah were the bottom of that sea, which is supposed to have had the salty consistency of the ocean, which is about 3.3 per cent.

On some prehistoric day the waters of the sea broke through their barriers on the north and flowed to the west through what is now known as the Bear River Canyon, and thence on through Snake River Canyon to the ocean. That reduced the area of the sea to what is now known as the Provo shore line, which is about 500 feet above the present

level of the lake. Both the Bonneville and Provo shore lines are plainly visible. From that shore line the lake has gradually been reduced by evaporation and other means to its present dimensions.

The Mormons first saw the lake on July 24, 1847, but it is pretty well authenticated that the first discovery was made by the famous scout, Jim Bridger.

The water is about 19 per cent salt. The only living thing in the lake is a diminutive shrimp about the size of a pin head, which is to be found in large numbers.

The salt industry here is world famous. One enterprising statistician recently figured it out that the amount of sodium chloride in the lake would fill a train of freight cars reaching from the earth to the moon, and then leave plenty of cars for the sidings. In this connection it is interesting to note that the west shore of the sea is of pure, glistening salt, fourteen miles long and eight miles wide. This strange sea, probable made by the washing up of the water, is of unknown depth and as level as a floor and as white as snow. Engineers estimate, however, that it would take 480,000,000 freight cars to transport it to market.

This sea of salt is the property of the University of the State of Utah, which is located on one of the hills of Salt Lake City. The University secured it under the grant of saline lands, and in prospective it makes that institution one of the richest, if not the richest in the United States.

Railroad transportation facilities soon will be available to market this salt, which will furnish an endowment which will be safer, surer and more unflinching than gifts by multimillionaires. Surrounding the lake are numerous salt farms provided with ponds which are a few feet below the level of the lake, and into which the water of the lake is either pumped or drained to a depth of two or three feet. After each evaporation a deposit of several inches of salt remains. This is shoveled into piles for use in silver mills, for salting stock on the range, or to be refined for table and packing or dairy purposes.

The value of the annual product probably does not exceed \$150,000. It is about 99 per cent pure.

It is a curious fact that at times during the winter season when the right temperature and the right winds prevail, the lake, by force of its own waves, separates the chemicals from its waters and deposits thousands of tons of soda upon the shores, where it remains until later, when the waves again seize it and return it into solution. The wonder is that man has not long ago availed himself of the assistance of the lake in gathering this soda for industrial uses.

At present the famous Saltair resort is operated under lease from the Mormon Church. Its operation is criticised, but large crowds seek pleasure and refreshment daily in the waters of the lake. The only means of reaching it is by the trains of the Oregon Short line, which give frequent and rapid service.

The great future of the resort, outside of bathing, is the immense dancing pavilion, which is built exactly like the Mormon Tabernacle, but which is 100 feet longer. The dancing floor is of the finest, the music is excellent, and all the privileges of using the floor is free to all who enter the place. It is the great playground of Salt Lake City, and is unique in every respect.

GLEN STERLING.

INVESTIGATION OF STATE RESOURCES

Prof. Norwood Maps Out Work For Years

SPECIAL ATTENTION TO OIL AND MINERALS.

Lexington, Ky., July 10.—Prof. C. J. Norwood, director of the Kentucky Geological Survey, has just assigned the work of that department for the new fiscal year. The list shows what a valuable work this branch of the State government is accomplishing, and the opportunities it opened and is opening to owners of land in Kentucky as well as foreign capital seeking investment.

During 1909 especial attention is being given to coals, oil, soils, clays, barytes, fluorspar, and cement material, bulletins upon several of those products having been issued and several more being in the hands of the public printer or in the course of preparation. These have already attracted much capital, great activity at present being shown in the coal fields and the oils and gas of the Meade-Breckenridge district, while Kentucky lithographic stone, barite and fluorspar are also receiving attention from capitalists.

The members of the survey who will be in the field this year are: Dr. L. C. Glenn, who will report upon the coals of the Tradewater region in Western Kentucky, comprising Webster, Hopkins and Union counties; F. M. Hutchinson, in Muhlenberg, McLean, Daviess, Henderson and adjacent regions in the Green River valley for the purpose of studying the coals, oil and gas of that district. Messrs. K. D. White and W. B. Hager will go with Mr. Hutchinson to run necessary levels; Prof. A. R. Orandall, coals in the eastern field; Prof. A. F. Foerste, oil and gas in Meade, Breckenridge and Hardin counties.

Mr. S. C. Jones will accompany Prof. Foerste and later he with Mr. Hutchinson to study and collect soils in portions of the western coalfield for the soil survey being conducted by Director Norwood. This is an exceedingly important work of direct benefit to the farmer in every section of the Commonwealth. The soils of each county are being experimented with and analyzed to determine their nature and what is needed in the way of fertilization or other process to make some of our apparently most barren and worthless land the equal of the cheap western land which Kentuckians are so fond of buying and improving by scientific methods into rich farms. Prof. Norwood sees no reason why Kentuckians shouldn't use the same energy and methods on their own land they do on farms in other States and thus keep money and prosperity at home.

Prof. R. D. Quickel, who is now working on the determination of heat values of Kentucky coals, will collect samples from both fields.

Later in the year it is probable that one or two oil pools in Eastern and Southern Kentucky will be studied.

Additional work is being done in topography and mapping by two parties under the direction of Prof. Norwood, representing the co-operative work of State and Federal Surveys now being carried on in Southeastern and Western Kentucky, and

which consumes \$10,000 of the annual survey appropriation of \$25,000. With these parties two embryo mining engineers, students of the College of Mining Engineering at State University, are placed for the season. They are C. W. Wardell, of the city, and W. A. Reiter, of Fredonia.

MISS MARGARET TURNER GRADUATES WITH HONORS

At Loretto Academy, Pueblo, Colorado.

Miss Margaret Ellen Turner, of this city, who has for the past three years been attending Loretto Academy at Pueblo, Colorado, graduated with high honors at that institution at the close of the school year in June. Miss Turner is quite an accomplished musician, of both vocal and instrumental, for which she received the gold medal given at the school for proficiency in music. Special mention is also made of Miss Turner's oil painting of which the Pueblo Journal says:

"Miss Turner's best is a lion family creditable the test of making the figures which are well nigh perfect. This piece measures in length ten feet. She has again showed her artistic ability in a little scene entitled, 'The Last Day of October' in which the colors are beautiful and attractive."

Miss Turner is expected home this week.

MRS. A. E. WILLSON WILL REGAIN USE OF INJURED HAND.

Specialists in East Give Assurance of Complete Recovery.

Frankfort, Ky., July 13.—That the use of her right hand will be restored to Mrs. Willson, wife of Gov. Willson, is the opinion of the eminent specialists of Johns Hopkins University, who examined the broken arm, which has been giving Mrs. Willson so much trouble. It will require a long time for the mend to be complete, but there is nothing about the wound that should cause alarm.

Both Gov. Willson and Mrs. Willson stood the flying trip to Baltimore and the return to this city much better than was expected, and Mrs. Willson did not suffer as much as was anticipated. The trip was delightful, and both Mrs. Willson and the Governor are feeling much better.

Henderson Mayor Stops Boxing.

Henderson, Ky., July 12.—Mayor Harris issued a statement this morning that he would take steps under the law to stop the sparring match between Kid Bryson, of Indiana, and Joe Parcenti, of Chicago, advertised to be pulled off here next Wednesday night.

MOUNTAIN WOMAN ESCAPES FROM PENITENTIARY.

But Sprains Ankle and is Returned a Prisoner by Farmer.

Frankfort, Ky., July 13.—Probably the first woman who ever scaled the walls of the Kentucky penitentiary went over them to brief freedom during last night. She was returned to the prison this morning by a farmer of the eastern part of the county, to whom she surrendered herself because of a sprained ankle which prevented her making good her escape.

The woman was Dicie Gilpin, of Pulaski county, and she had been a prisoner for only three weeks. She was sent up for one

year. Prison life early became tiresome, and the mountain woman climbed the wall, which heretofore has been scaled by men only. She had to jump from the top and thus sprained her ankle. She had gotten several miles out on the Versa road when she stopped at the home of W. N. Woodhise, surrendered to him. He returned her to prison this morning.

CONGRESSMEN WILL GET MORE GARDEN SEEDS

Quota Greatly Increased in Amendment by Secretary Wilson.

Washington, July 13.—Members of Congress are in feather over two announcements just received from Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, as follows: Hereafter the Congressional annual quota of garden seeds will be 20,000 packages, instead of 12,000.

2. Hereafter the Congressman's annual allotment of seeds will be 2,000 packages instead of 500.

Upon receiving this data communication from the Secretary of Agriculture many a Congressman exclaimed, Oh, joy, and then, figuratively speaking, turned around and shook hands with himself.

The seed (garden or flower) is one of the most effective modern vote-getting devices, and the larger the distribution of seeds the largest harvest the expectant Congressman expects to garner in on election day.

JAPANESE WOOD TO BE USED FOR RAILROAD TIES

Santa Fe Brings Coco Bola Shipments Across Pacific For Trial.

Chicago, July 13.—The Atchafalaya, Topeka, and Santa Fe roads are making arrangements for a series of experiments with a new kind of railroad ties which will be observed with interest by every railroad in the United States.

The Santa Fe recently purchased a large shipment of Japan of coco-bola and Japanese oak ties, which has just been landed in California and is now being prepared for use on the Santa Fe tracks in Kansas. The experiments are to be conducted at Great Bend, Kas.

This wood from Japan, when delivered in California, cost the railroad about \$1.15 a tie, or a little more than is paid for American ties. The wood is so hard that it is said to be almost impossible to drive a spike into it, and it is expected to be capable of twenty-five to thirty years' wear.

Holes will have to be bored into the wood and screw spikes will be used. When laid the cost of the ties will be in the neighborhood of \$2 each. The shipment received contains 170,000 ties.

When the ties are placed in position rails will be laid and the track will be rebalanced, so that it will afford an accurate medium for observation and tests. It is claimed that it will then be one of the finest pieces of railroad track in the world.

The tie question is said to be one of the most important of those now facing the American railroads on account of the increasing scarcity and higher price for timber suitable for ties. Many experiments have been and are now being made with creosote and zinc treating method in the effort to increase the life of ties.

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